

Our Report

Fair Copy signed by

To

C.S.

SIR,

Have the honor to report
to you my return from town
this morning.

2. As known to you the
purpose of my departure for
Manay was my marking
visit of inspection. I was
satisfied with the work done
in the Waterfall ponds. Mr.
Hippance has put taken over
charge there: it is up to him
to begin making his marks
there, & to introduce some
European idols into the
gardening. The Waterfall ponds (manay)
were on September 28th the last day
3. I visited the Taseki-kyo

first to see the Shrine

Yours

REPORT ON A TOUR OF INSPECTION, AUGUST, 1910

By the Director of Gardens, S.S.

1 I left Singapore on the afternoon of August 12th for Penang, taking the Gardens' plant collector with me. It had been arranged that I was to have casual leave until my arrival in Malacca territory five days later: but I used that spare time I had in Penang for collecting plants, and I also visited the Waterfall gardens, and saw the Resident Councillor, Penang.

2 As regards the Gardens:- the Overseer complains of the inferiority of the class of labour obtainable for the sanctioned wages. These wages are fixed by the Government from time to time; but the rates will hereafter be considered also by the Waterfall Gardens Committee, and I wait for the gazetting of that Committee to lay the matter before the members.

3 I examined the accounts with my budget estimate, and gave orders on them: and I visited all parts of the Gardens.

4 The Overseer has been very successful with some Eucalyptus seed which I sent to him, having raised a large number of plants. Eucalyptus have been at times in demand in this country for the shading of public places, but the estate manager has little chance of raising them from seed as he rarely understands anything about the conditions under which success can be obtained. His success is consequently gratifying. While on the subject of Eucalyptus, it may be added that one species is flowering in the abandoned experimental plantation on Government Hill at 1500 feet, apparently the same species as flowered two

years ago in the Waterfall gardens, and on the abandoned Kubang Ulu forest reserve in Province Wellesley. On that occasion seed from the Penang gardens gave plenty of seedlings in the Botanic Gardens, Singapore.

I see therefore no reason why through the gardens Eucalypts should not be available in ~~the~~ sufficient quantities for the peninsula.

5 The pot-plants were, as always under Mr. Garfield, in excellent condition.

6 The dam protecting the Central Bridge caused uneasiness still, the stream having again shifted the material (vide the last Annual Report). A large amount of stone must be ~~the~~ thrown into the bed. The leakage from the Reservoir in the upper part of the Garden is also unsatisfactory; for the volume of water seeping increases, and the drains put in two years ago no longer suffice. These sources of expense are most unwelcome at a time when the cost of tools from Europe forces on us the most rigid economy.

7 The stream bank below the Central Bridge is being planted up with Red-stemmed Palms, etc., and should become in the course of a few years a very pretty spot. The avenue of Pandanus trees from the main gate promises well. The enclosures of the Gardens are satisfactorily reserved.

8 In collecting attention was particularly given to the Dipterocarps, which timber trees are now the subject of joint work with the Conservator of Forests. Seeds of several were brought to Singapore for study in cultivation.

One interesting Dipterocarp was obtained which appears to have been collected by no one since George Foster was employed in Penang ninety-five years ago.

9 From Penang I proceeded to Ipoh to have a morning's collecting there; and thence I went forward to Taiping. I stayed in Taiping from midnight of the 17th-18th to the night of 24th. August, visiting various places in Malacca.

10 On Sunday the 20th. I addressed the Malacca Planters Association on the subject of selection in rubber, an address which the Association proposes to print.

11 I visited many places in connection with Coconut tree inspection. I found the red and the black beetles with the greatest of ease in Coconut trunks, sage trunks, and rubber palm trunks. I have since addressed the Public Works Department in Malacca on the subject of the encouragement to the beetles that their roadside cutting leads to, and I am awaiting a reply. The Assistant Inspector under the Coconut tree preservation Ordinance is now stationed at Alor Gajah: and I saw Mr. Norton the District Officer about his work. It will be necessary for me soon to carry out another inspection there in order to see that he is working in the right direction. I am dissatisfied with the work of the senior inspector in this way that he has been encouraged to show a number of rather prosecutions, / than to produce a clean country side, and he must learn that I shall judge by the latter.

12 Upwards of two years ago I started an experiment to ascertain if the small leguminous tree, Bauhinia glauca, could be got to assert itself in lalang. A patch of lalang close to Selatuar was selected for the experiment and the seed broadcast over it. It was eaten by rats and field mice. A second lot of seed was treated with sulphuric acid, and broadcast. It too was eaten, or that neither by

accelerating germination nor by making what might be thought
an unpalatable seed-coat did we escape the rats. At
the time I was in charge of locust work, and Selanar
was always a place that had to be visited. Later I again
scattered broadcast untreated seed. Some of this has
now established itself, but not in abundance. Unfortunately
the falling patch has been applied for, and my particular
experiment at Selanar must end. But the District Officer
again, selected for me a fresh place which he considered
to be beyond any extension of cultivation likely to
occur: and there I have broadcast treated seed and also
dibbled seed in. I have also done the same on the
north of Bukit Payong in the Alor Gajah Division, and
broadcast seed on the south of Bukit Sialang *(that which is near Lampau
Airport)*

Persea glauca would if abundant serve as a supply
of firewood, and it makes a splendid nurse for bigger
trees. If therefore at a more normal cost it could be
got to take possession of falling land, much good would
be done.

Herbarium specimens were collected as occasion offered
but the Dipterocarps in the neighbourhood of Marlin must
have been removed from the forests long ago: and there
was no opportunity of visiting the richer forests in the
north-east of the territory of Malacca.

I left Singapore by rail on July 1st 1911
arriving at Kuala Lumpur that
night. The following day was occupied
in sending off the heavy baggage
to Kuala Kangsar, and making
final arrangements. and July 3 I left
for Kuala Kangsar, with Mr Robinson.
The same evening the carts with the
collectors and baggage left for Grit.
Mr Robinson and I drove to Seriggong
July 4, and were here overtaken by Mr
Klass who had come from太平.
We remained at Seriggong that night
and reached Grit, 40 miles next day
July 5. Here we engaged eleven
elephants to carry the baggage and
sent them on July 6, to Kuala Temau.
We started to walk to Kuala Temau
17 miles next day, and overtook the
elephants four miles short of the
village, remained at this place for
the night and started next morning
for Ulu Temau 13 miles which we
reached about midday, the elephants
arriving at 3.15.
It was hoped that after exploring
this unknown district we might be
able to reach the higher mountains
lying to the South East, but shortly
after our arrival we heard through

the Pengkulu that the District Officer
Mr Berkeley had commandeered all
the elephants in the district including
the two belonging to the To Ra Roy
of the Temungo. The two were being
then sick remained at the village
I remained at this place till July
30. Making excursions with the
plant collector every day in search
of plants as far as we could get in the
day. The place was a very unhealthy
one, all or almost all were more or
less sick from time to time, with diarrhoea
and fever, I suffered much from painful
swellings in the legs and toward the
end of our stay was unable to wear shoes
and could only walk with difficulty.
The flora though distinct in character
from other localities I had visited
was rather poor, and remarkably
homogeneous, ~~probably its comparative~~
~~to~~ A long spell of dry weather here
for some months previously had put
a large percentage of the trees out of
flower, The hills were largely covered
with bamboo and Bertan forest. And
these kinds of localities are always
very poor in species, However we
managed to obtain a very large
series of plants including a con-
siderable number of novelties

And of much interest. The district
seemed to be unusually rich in
small plants of the order Acant-
ceae many of which will I think
prove new. The forests were rather
poor in timber. Dipterocarps being
few, so much so that Damar was hardly
to be reckoned among the forest produce
collected by the Temangs. The most
conspicuous timber tree was Merbau
which was abundant and of very large
size. The fine tree Eugenia hardii
allied to the Walnut, was very abundant
and is usually a fine timber. A very
striking oak Newtonia was abundant
at the Temangs, rather remarkable for
its comparatively small size. The
curious and uncommon parasitic
plant Rafflesia was met with in flower
on two occasions.

After exhausting the accessible district
round the Temango Village, as no
elephant transport was available, an
attempt was made to procure Coolies to
carry the necessary stores etc further
in to the forest for a day or two to get a
fresh hare. & if possible to get to a higher
level. The the Temango village which
extends mainly along a valley of rice-
fields is said to be the second largest
village in the District and contains a

fairly large population, several
hundreds, but after much trouble
we could only obtain two coolies who
were willing at the high rate of a dollar
a day to help to carry the baggage.
This was due in large measure to the
fact that the natives were quite unused
to seeing Europeans, and were in great
fear that we should kill them & take
the children etc. So nervous were they that
on our arrival the children refused to
go to school, the school being near the
house we were occupying, except under
a guard of adults, and several families
used to crowd in to one but at night
harricading themselves in fear of a
raid. In addition to this the greater
part at least of the Malays were
opium smokers, the opium is imported
from Siam by two Chinese shopkeepers
in the village and sold to the
Malays at \$3.50 a tahil. One of the
two coolies I took to carry baggage told me
that he had only started to using opium
for two years, that he spent seven dollars
a month on it, and had sold all his
buffaloes, goats and fields, and was in
a very poor way, he was anxious to get
some drugs to stop the craving, & proposed
to go to get hospital to get cured. Before
starting with me he had an advance of a

dollar which he immediately spent
in opium and a little tobacco and by
the time we reached camp had used all
the opium and was feeling the pangs
want of more. The rice fields were
evidently neglected, & though it was
the season for planting, ~~the~~ two or three
children & one or two men were all that
were to be seen digging the weeds out
of the fields.

With such a wretched lot of villagers
it was hardly to be wondered at that
we were unable to induce any to act
as carriers.

As it was impossible to get more than two
men it was decided that I alone should
go a day journey into the forest & camp
there for some days collecting, the baggage
being carried by some of the bird collectors
by akas belonging to Mr Robinson & the two
coolies. I therefore started early in the
morn'g by the Temungo river ~~for~~ on the
20th. The opium smoking coolie broke down
about the end of the first mile but we
managed to get him along, though eventually
my boy had to carry his load for him
most of the way. About two o'clock
the rain was so heavy and the
men so exhausted that we elected to
stop and camp where we were on
an old Semang clearing by the river.

bank, and in an hour or two had
put up some huts of sticks and
leaves under which we could put
the baggage and get out of the rain.
All of course were wet through and
I was by this time very lame in both
legs from ulcerations.

21 The Dyaks went on from camp for some
miles to try and find the most accessible
hills of any altitude. but nothing accessible
without better transport was to be seen.
The plant collector and I went along
the track by the river to collect and
obtained a good many new & rare
plants, but he was suffering badly
from fever and diarrhoea, and I was hardly
able to walk without much pain, & also ill from
diarrhoea & slight fever. so we returned about
3 o'clock.

22 The Dyaks & coolies returned to the Teungay
and I & the plant collector went out collecting.

23. Both the plant collector & myself ill
hardly able to do more than ^{collect} creep about
camp.

24 Both feeling better we explored the
river banks wading up the river for
some miles. and obtained a good collection.

26 Mr. Klass had sent a note saying that
the men would come to fetch us this day.
so we did not go far from camp & got everything
ready to return. In the evening the Toke Kong

sick elephant came and on 27th I returned
on it to the Ulu Temungo.

On 28th we prepared everything to return
down the Temungo river to Guit
by rafts.

29th Started on the rafts (four) and
reached ~~Ferris~~ Kuala Temungo by
midday. I and the plant collector went
in the afternoon to collect plants in the
woods close by. One of the ^{Malay} men belonging
30. to Mr Robinson was now very seriously
ill with fever, we eventually got him to the
hospital at Guit where he died some days later.

30." Left Kuala Temungo on the rafts
now reduced to three & enlarged for
Guit. On the way one of the coolies
announced that he had seen at Kuala
Temungo ten elephants going up to the
Ulu with the rest of the baggage that
we had had to leave at Guit for want of
sufficient elephants. Three weeks previously
and which the D.O. had promised should
follow next day. It was too late now to
stop the elephants, & bring back the baggage
we had left the collections zoological and
botanical at Ulu Temungo under the
charge of some of the Dyaks, as we were afraid to
risk them in the rapids of the Perak river
and hoped to get elephants from Guit to bring
them down. This was however impossible
and the Dyaks eventually brought the
whole collections down quite unhurt to ~~camping~~

by raft

We reached Kuala Kemuning about
6 o'clock, put the baggage into a hut
for the night & walked to Grit $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles.
On arriving at the Rest House I
found that the rest house keeper and
cook had been taken by the District
Officer on his expedition to the new
territory and the only people in the
house were an old Chinaman and a
Malay boy about 12 years old. Two other government
officers arrived the same night ~~and~~ having telegraphed
for food, but ~~there~~ the telegram had not been
received & there was no food for them. It does
not seem right that rest houses in the
for travellers who have to depend on them
should be practically closed in this way.
One of the officers above mentioned was Dr
Bridges and he kindly answered my inquiries
but I was now unable to walk.

Aug 1. The baggage having been brought to
the rest house went on in carts to Serpong
and Aug 3. we followed ^{in the morning} reaching Serpong
in the evening 40 miles. The carts had
arrived that morning & the plant collector
had taken the opportunity to explore the
limestone hills in the neighbourhood
making an excellent collection.

Aug 4. Drove to Kuala Kangsar &
reached Taiping that evening
by train.

5 I remained in Mr. Klas's house for
some days, unable to move about much.
The plant collector meanwhile collecting
on the Chapung hills till Aug 8. When
it was considered necessary for me
to go into the hospital. The plant collector
also went to hospital with severe fever.
While in hospital 12th I was attacked
with severe subtertian fever, and
remained in hospital till the 20th.
It had been intended I should go on to
the Agricultural Exhibition and later
to Setul to collect plants. This
was made unpassable by my illness.
Left hospital on the 20th and went
to Penang, and 21st embarked on
St. Kistna arriving in Singapore
on the morning of the 23rd.
In spite of the difficulties already
detailed and the ~~amount of sickness~~
~~in the~~ unhealthiness of the district
a good ~~and~~ collection of plants
for the herbarium was made and
a number of live plants and seeds
of interest were brought successfully
to the gardens. No opportunity was
lost of collecting both on the
march and in camp. The plant-
collector Mat, in spite of constant
fever and dizziness collected &
prepared specimens strenuously.

And my boy as well as some of the Dyak bird-collectors assisted in making bamboo presses and helping to dry the plants in the sun whenever necessary. As the weather was generally very hot the plants put in small lots in the bamboo & wire presses we had made & brought dried well in a very few days, enabling us to work fast. It is hoped to prepare a full account of the expedition & of the plants & animals collected as soon as is possible.

I enclose with this a medical certificate from Dr. Peme of the Taping Hospital as to my illness there.